WASHINGTON, D. C., SUNDAY MORNING, NOVEMBER 12, 1916.

## Exciting Races With the Presidency as the Trophy

The closeness of the vote in the race for president between Woodrow Wilson and Charles E. Hughes naturally takes one back to the exciting campaign of 1884, when Cleveland and Blaine were battling for the prize, and to the Tilden and Hayes contest of 1876, with its charges of steal and its threats of force and violence. Also to those who are familiar with the early political history of our country, the contest between Aaron Burr and Thomas Jefferson will be recalled, likewise that of 1824 between Andrew Jackson and John Quincy Adams.

In the campaign of 1884 the republicans nominated James G. Blaine of Maine, the most popular man of the day, while Grover Cleveland, a sturdy son of New York, carried the hopes of the democracy. From the start the campaign was charged with bitterness, the issues of the day giving way to the personalities of the candidates. As in the campaign that has just closed, much speculation had been indulged in as to who would be supported by this church or Catholic should vote for Cleveland.

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In the election of 1876 samuel J. Tilden of New York was the nomines of the democract, while Rutherford B. Hayes of Ohio bore the standard of the republicans. The returns gave Til-

legal preparations that were being made to overthrow their will. They told the federalists that if Burr was made President in this manner they would arm, march to Washington, depose the usurper and put Jefferson in his place.

To the charge that the federalists were seeking to hinder an election and destroy the republic, the republicans added another, that of burning public property and records. The charge was founded on the following circumstances: When it became evident that a new administration was coming into power every book and paper in the office of the Secretary of War was burned. Shortly after the fire the Secretary of War was made Secretary of the Treasury, and he had scarcely began his new duties before the Treasury Department, with its vouchers and records, was also burned, this fire being called, at the time, "Bonfire No. 2."

The motive that was sought to be drawn from the burning of these departmental buildings was that the Secretary of War had misappropriated the money, amounting to a half million dollars, that had been intrusted to him for the payment of the army, and that he had first destroyed the War Department records and then those of the Treasury Department, thereby furnishing an explanation for the absence of the vouchers and receipts that were necessary to balance his accounts. From the above one can easily imagine how bitter the two factions must have been toward each other, and how the passions of the people could easily have been fanned into a flame that would have enveloped the country in a civil war, which would have completely destroyed forever the government that we now enjoy.

In the federalists were the secondary to the federalists were the substituted to him for the payment of the army, and the thory and the form of 1824 failed to give any one of the four candidates a majority of the electoral votes. Monroe was retiring as Fresident, and according to the their apparent to office were Andrew Jackson of Tenessee, William H. Crawford of Georgia and Henry Clay of Kentucky, Jackson



nations secure nitrates for their explosives.

In spite of the quantities of explosives used on the thousand miles of battle-front, less saltpeter from Chile is passing through the Panama canal to the alies than did during the first year of the war, and the scientists have found out the reason

Dr. Parsons is now in London, and he expects to visit France, Italy, Norway and Sweden. He is not going to see what the allies are doing, but how they are doing it, for he knows that they get most of their nitrates by using nests of by-product ovens, which save thousands of tons of nitrates otherwise wasted in making many million tons of coke from soft coal.

The Germans, however, cut off from foreign nitrates, have augmented their minute. foreign nitrates, have augmented their supply by erecting a fixation plant said to turn out ammonia at the rate of 140,000 tons a year.



## PLAN IS REVIVED AGAIN

matic investigation was begun to dematic investigation was begun to de- and Swiss railway systems, and the termine whether natural conditions Hoosac (434 miles), in the United

The second control of the control of

ISCUSSION of the English channel tion from 1873 to 1886. The Mersey tunnel has been revived and the prospects are that the great international submarine tube may be the bored. It is a century-old project. In 1809 a French mining engineer named Mathieu won the favor of Bonaparte with his scheme for tunneling the channel. It was in 1865 that a systematic investigation was begun to de-

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